

Message Text

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ACTION VO-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 SCA-01 DHA-02 ORM-02 ITFE-00

INSE-00 /016 W

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R 050538 NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5557

AMCONSUL UDORN

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

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SECSTATE FOR IATF AND ORM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, VS

SUBJECT: REUNIFICATION OF FAMILY: DIEP VAN YI

REF: A. UDORN 1362

B. STATE 242309 AND PREVIOUS

1. VILAYVANH SIHARATH, WHO CLAIMS SHE IS SISTER OF QUANG DIEM ANH, CAME TO SEE CONSUL AT CONSUL'S REQUEST NOVEMBER 5. CONSUL HAD RECEIVED LETTERS FROM FATHER OF DIEP VAN YI AND FROM FAMILY'S SPONSOR IN ARIZONA ASKING THAT WE ARRANGE THAT CHILD BE SENT TO U.S. TO JOIN PARENTS. CONSUL SHOWED THESE LETTERS TO VILAYVANH SIHARATH AND AGAIN ASKED IF SHE WOULD BE ABLE TO TAKE CHILD TO NONGKHAI, AS CONSULATE UDORN HAD PROPOSED (REF A).

2. VILAYVANH SIHARATH SAID SHE HAD DECIDED SHE NOT WILLING TO TURN CHILD OVER TO REFUGEE FAMILY OF DANG DICH LUONG AS SHE DOES NOT KNOW FAMILY AND WOULD WORRY ABOUT CHILD. VILAYVANH ASKED IF SHE HERSELF COULD GET REFUGEE STATUS AND COULD TRAVEL TO U.S. TO ACCOMPANY CHILD. CONSUL EXPLAINED SHE WOULD NEED TO PROVE RELATIONSHIP TO SISTER IN U.S., AND WOULD NEED SPONSOR IN U.S., PROOF OF VIETNAMESE NATIONALITY AND

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SO FORTH. VILAYVANH THEN STATED SHE IS LAO NATIONAL. CONSUL EXPLAINED THIS EMBASSY NOT INVOLVED WITH LAO REFUGEE PROGRAM AND THAT VILAYVANH SIHARATH WOULD HAVE TO CONSULT U.S. AUTHORITIES OUTSIDE LAOS IF SHE WISHES TO TRY TO GO TO U.S. IN REFUGEE PROGRAM.

3. SINCE CONSUL COULD NOT ASSURE VILAYVANH SIHARATH THAT SHE WOULD DEFINITELY BE ACCEPTED INTO REFUGEE PROGRAM, VILAYVANH SUGGESTED THAT SHE WOULD BE WILLING TO DELIVER CHILD TO CARE OF ANOTHER LAO REFUGEE FAMILY WHOM SHE KNOWS FOR TRIP TO U.S. FAMILY SHE SUGGESTS ARE MR. KHAMMEN SOMBATHCHALEUN AND MRS. THIP SOMBATHCHALEUN. VILAYVANH BELIEVES THEY ARE NOW IN UDORN, BUT WILL BE TRAVELLING TO KANSAS IN NEAR FUTURE.

4. VILAYVANH CONCLUDED THAT SHE WOULD BE WILLING TO TAKE CHILD AS FAR AS NONGKHAI TO MEET SOMEONE FROM CONSULATE UDORN, AS UDORN HAS SO KINDLY OFFERED TO PICK UP CHILD. HOWEVER, SHE NOTED BORDER CLOSED TODAY (NOVEMBER 5) AND IT NOT CERTAIN WHEN BORDER WILL RE-OPEN. ALSO, SHE SAID CHILD WAS SICK AND WOULD NOT BE WELL ENOUGH TO TRAVEL FOR ANOTHER DAY OR SO. CONSUL STRESSED THAT VILAYVANH SHOULD LET US KNOW IN ADVANCE WHEN SHE ABLE TO TAKE CHILD TO NONGKHAI, SO THAT WE COULD MAKE ARRANGEMENTS WITH CONSULATE UDORN.

5. FOR UDORN: WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR LOCATING SOMBATHCHALEUN FAMILY AND DISCOVERING IF THEY WILLING TO TAKE CHARGE OF CHILD AS FAR AS SAN FRANCISCO AND IF THEIR TRAVEL PLANS MADE THIS FEASIBLE. IF FAMILY CAN TAKE CHARGE OF CHILD, PLEASE ADVISE US WHEN IT WOULD BE CONVENIENT TO HAVE CHILD COME TO NONGKHAI.

6. FOR IATF AND ORM: PLEASE CONTACT CHILD'S FATHER DIEP ANH AND EXPLAIN DELAY IN CHILD'S TRAVEL. YOU MAY ALSO WISH TO DISCOVER IF DIEP ANH IS ABLE AND WILLING TO SPONSOR SISTER-IN-LAW, AS SHE MAY GO TO UDORN HERSELF TO ASK ABOUT REFUGEE STATUS.
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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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